

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN JANUARY 2007

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in January was 2.34 million metric tons (Mt), which was 5% lower than that in December 2006, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Production for January 2007 was 7% lower than in January 2006.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in January 2007 was 2.59 Mt, a slight increase over that of December 2006. Reported use of phosphate rock was 3% lower than in January 2006. U.S. producer stocks were 4% lower than in December 2006 and 11% lower than in January 2006.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and export data from the Moroccan producer. Morocco supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported into the United States; however, the U.S. Census Bureau suppresses much of the phosphate rock data from Morocco.

Apparent phosphate rock consumption in 2006 was estimated to be 32.6 Mt compared with 37.8 Mt in 2005.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks <sup>2</sup>
2006:			
January	2,520	2,670	6,620
February	1,970	2,230	6,370
March	2,570	2,370	6,500
April	2,570	2,570	6,540
May	3,000	2,540	7,000
June	2,590	2,510	7,260
July	2,540	2,590	6,600
August	2,800	2,660	6,750
September	2,470	2,460	6,750
October	2,530	2,950	6,210
November	2,060	2,070	6,210
December	2,470	2,570	6,120
January-December	30,100	30,200	XX
2007, January	2,340	2,590	5,880

XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
2005:		
December	112	4,120
January-December	1,720	70,300
Total year <sup>3</sup>	2,630	107,000
2006: <sup>4</sup>		
January	170	7,100
February	74	2,180
March	193	9,460
April	115	5,720
May	126	5,890
June	256	16,000
July	135	6,400
August	129	4,530
September	155	9,030
October	124	8,840
November	55	2,240
December	398	18,700
January-December	1,930	96,100
Total year <sup>3</sup>	2,400	115,000

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>3</sup>Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>4</sup>Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005	2006	2007 <sup>e, 1</sup>
Marketable production	36.2	30.1	27.6
Sold or used by producers	35.2	30.2	30.4
Yearend stocks	6.8	6.1	6.1
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.6	2.4	2.3
Average value per ton	\$40.87	\$48.05	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 2, 3</sup>	37.8	32.6	32.7

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>2</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>3</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.